



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: De Jong *et al.*
Serial No.: 09/815,981
Filed: March 22, 2001
For: *METHODS FOR DELIVERING NUCLEIC
ACID MOLECULES INTO CELLS AND
ASSESSMENT THEREOF*
Art Unit: Unassigned
Examiner: Unassigned

I hereby certify that this paper and the attached
papers are being deposited with the United States
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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date.

05/23/01
Date

Kelly Fischer
Kelly Fischer

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned patent application,
please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows (a marked-up copy of the
amended specification is attached to this Amendment):

**Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 3-7, with the following
paragraph:**

Included among the nucleic acid molecules that may be delivered into
cells using the methods provided herein are artificial chromosomes, satellite
DNA-based artificial chromosomes (SATACs, herein referred to as ACes) and
natural chromosomes or fragments of any of these chromosomes.

**Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 11-30, with the following
paragraph:**

In particular embodiments, the methods of monitoring delivery and
expression of a nucleic acid molecule include the steps of: introducing labelled
nucleic acid molecules that encode a reporter gene into cells;

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